

St. Louis Arsenal, Building No. 6
Second and Arsenal Streets
St. Louis
St. Louis City County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1159-4

HABS
MO
96-SALD
23K-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1159-A

ST. LOUIS ARSENAL, BUILDING NO. 6

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Location: Second and Arsenal Streets, St. Louis, St. Louis City County, Missouri. (Demolished August 1960)

Brief Statement of Significance: This is a large brick structure built about 1850. The building was fortified and involved in the riots in April and May 1861, when Confederate sympathizers attempted to seize ammunition and arms.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The building was originally owned by the United States Army, which used it as an ordnance depot. It was last owned by the United States Air Force, which used it as an aeronautical chart and information center.
2. Date of erection: About 1850.
3. Architect: Louis Winkelmeier.
4. Builder, suppliers: Probably Francis Quinette.
5. Original plans: In National Archives, Washington, D.C.
6. Notes on alterations and additions: Minor alterations made during World War II period.
7. Important old views: The Missouri Historical Society picture collection contains four original photographs of the St. Louis Arsenal during the Civil War.
8. Source of information: J. Thomas Scharf, History of St. Louis and St. Louis County (Philadelphia: 1883), pages 534-536.

B. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: Ordnance records, National Archives, Washington, D. C.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a large, two-story brick building with simplified Greek Revival details.

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2. Condition of fabric: Demolished August 1960.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: 75' x 45', two stories, divided three bays by five bays.
2. Foundations: Cut limestone.
3. Wall construction: Brick with the walls divided into Doric blind arcades with brick arches and flat pilasters.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doors: Cast-iron with glass panes.
 - b. Windows: Cast-iron window frames. Very low segmental arched openings on first floor, semi-circular arched openings on second floor.
5. Roof:
 - a. Shape: Gable.
 - b. Cornice: Brick cornice with a pediment at gable ends.

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: One large room per floor.
2. Stairways: Modern replacements.
3. Flooring: Linoleum over wood.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Brick exterior walls. Exposed wood beams supported by cast-iron columns.
5. Doorways and doors: No interior doors or partitions.
6. Hardware: Iron.
7. Lighting: Electric.
8. Heating: Central.

D. Site: The building was on the grounds of the St. Louis Arsenal. The axis of the building ran east and west, with entrances at both ends.